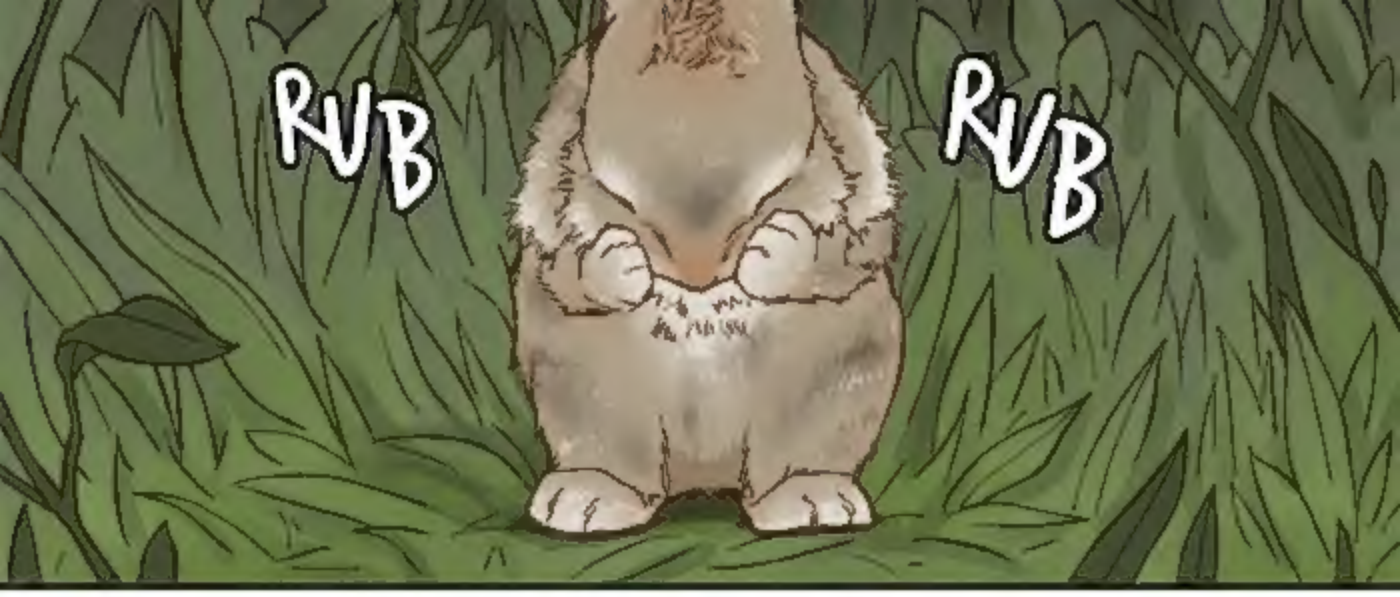
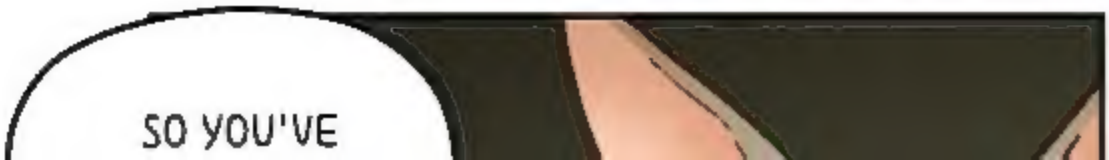
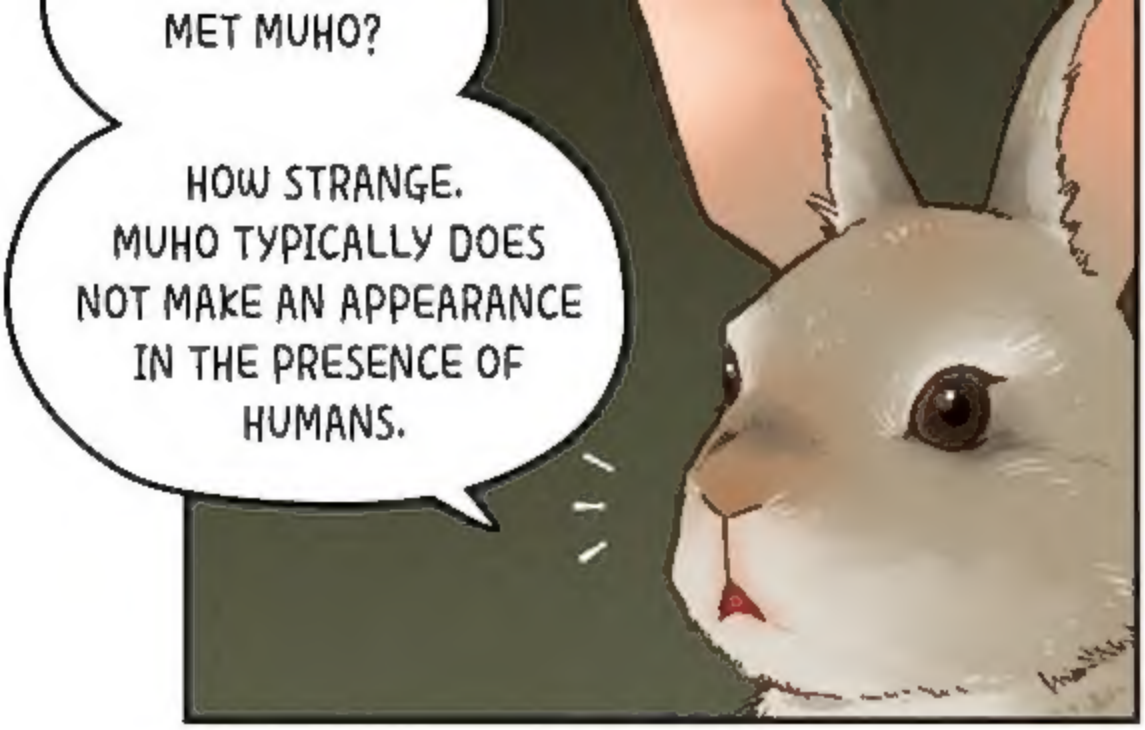
LICK
LICK


RUB
RUB

...

QUIT STARING, AND TELL ME WHY YOU HAVE COME HERE.
SORRY...
...IT'S JUST YOU LOOK JUST A TAD BIT DIFFERENT FROM THE BAEKUN MOUNTAIN SPIRIT...


SO YOU'VE


MET MUHO?
HOW STRANGE. MUHO TYPICALLY DOES NOT MAKE AN APPEARANCE IN THE PRESENCE OF HUMANS.

WELL...
WE'RE HERE BECAUSE WE KNOW THAT THE DRAGON OF THE SEOMJIN RIVER ONCE TRAINED ON THIS MOUNTAIN.

WE HEARD HE LOST HIS TONGUE DURING HIS ASCENSION...
OH, NOT THIS AGAIN.
YOU WATER DWELLERS JUST DON'T KNOW WHEN TO LET SOMETHING GO.

I CAN'T COUNT HOW MANY TIMES I'VE ALLOWED YOU DESPERATE CREATURES TO ROAM MY MOUNTAIN.
EVEN AFTER ALL THAT FUSS, HOWEVER, THERE WAS NOTHING TO BE FOUND.

THERE IS NOTHING MORE TROUBLESOME...
...THAN A COUPLE OF USELESS INDIVIDUALS OFFERING THEIR HELP.

...

DOES THAT MEAN...
...THAT EVEN *YOU* DON'T KNOW WHERE IT IS?
WE'RE SCREWED.

IT'S BEEN OVER 1,000 YEARS.
IT PROBABLY ROTTED AWAY INTO NOTHING LONG AGO.
...AND YOU HAVE NO INTENTION OF HELPING US, RIGHT?

HELP YOU? YOU IMPUDENT FOOLS SHOULD BE GRATEFUL TO BE ALIVE AFTER SUMMONING

ME IN SUCH A RUDE
MANNER.

I'M ONLY
LETTING YOU GO
BECAUSE OF MUHO.
JOLT
...!

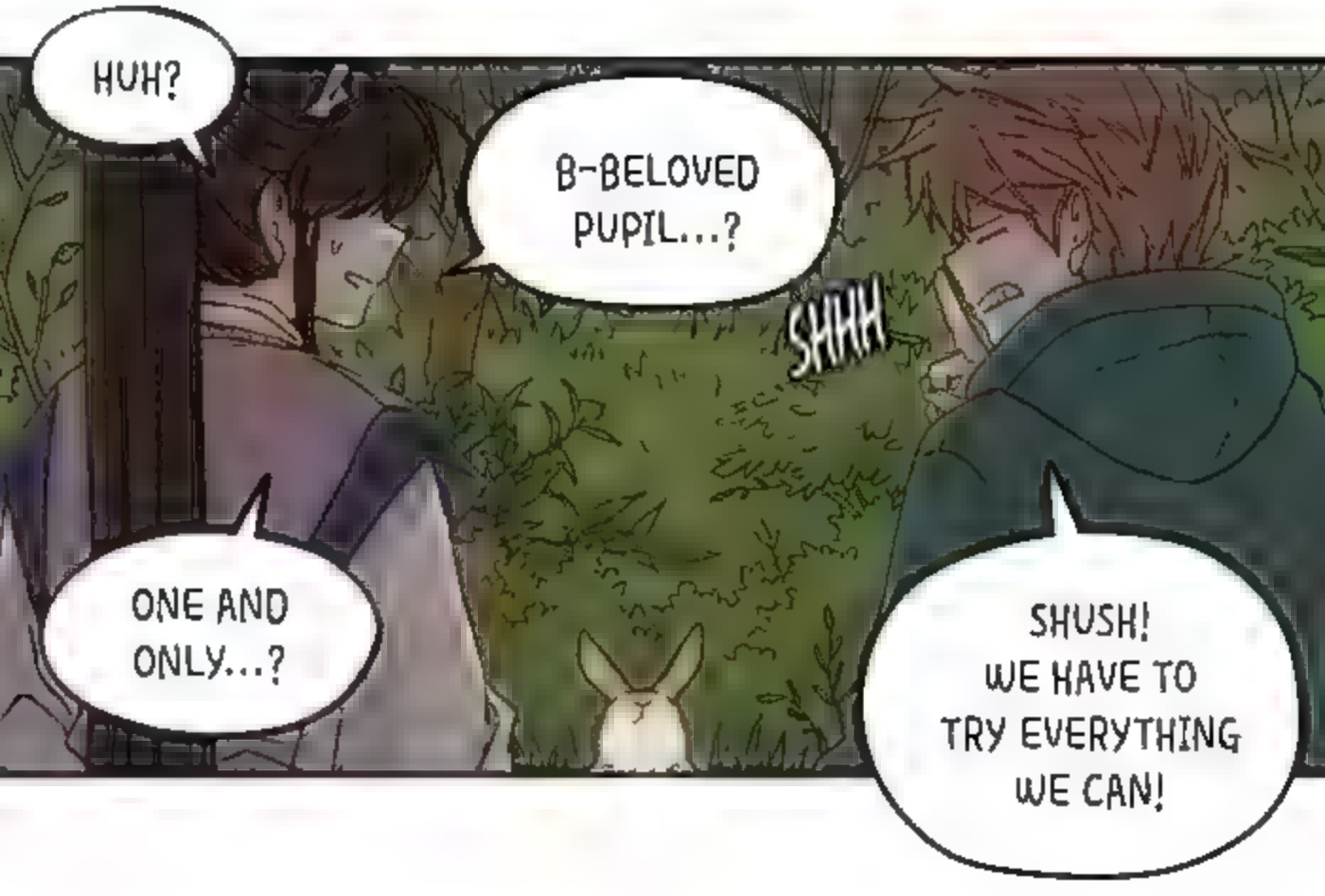
YOU SEE,
THIS IMOOGI
HERE...

...TRAINED FOR
1,000 YEARS...!

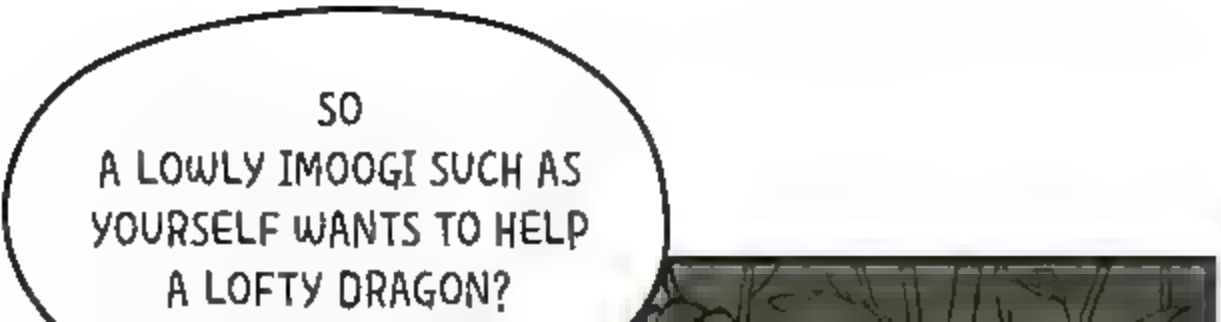
WHISH
...UNDER THE CARE OF MOUNT BAEKUN'S SPIRIT!

THIS IS MUHO'S BELOVED PUPIL!
THE ONE AND ONLY...

...BARI!


HUH?
B-BELOVED PUPIL...?
SHHH
ONE AND ONLY...?
SHUSH! WE HAVE TO TRY EVERYTHING WE CAN!

...!
AH, I'VE HEARD OF YOU. YOU'RE THAT LOSER SNAKE WHO CONSTANTLY GETS TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF BY HUMANS.
I KNEW YOU LOOKED TOO SOFT FOR YOUR OWN GOOD, AND WHAT D'YOU KNOW... HAH!


SO A LOWLY IMOOGI SUCH AS YOURSELF WANTS TO HELP A LOFTY DRAGON?

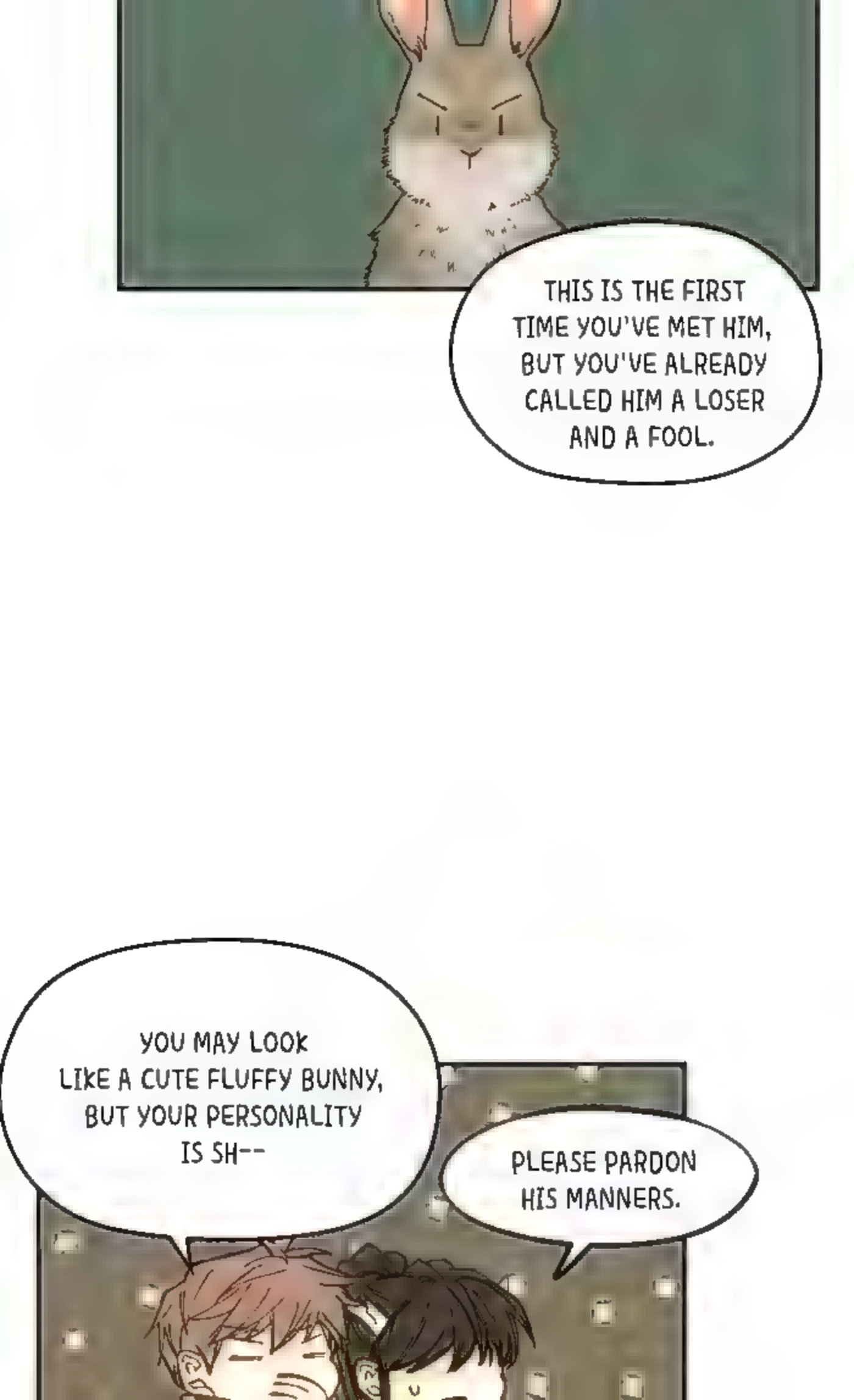
DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT MAKES BOTH OF YOU LOOK FOOLISH?
I INITIALLY THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST A HARMLESS FOOL, BUT IT SEEMS YOU'RE PRESUMPTUOUS AS WELL.
I NEVER THOUGHT SUCH A MISERABLE CREATURE LIKE YOU WOULD EVER SET FOOT ON

MY MOUNTAIN...

WHO CARES

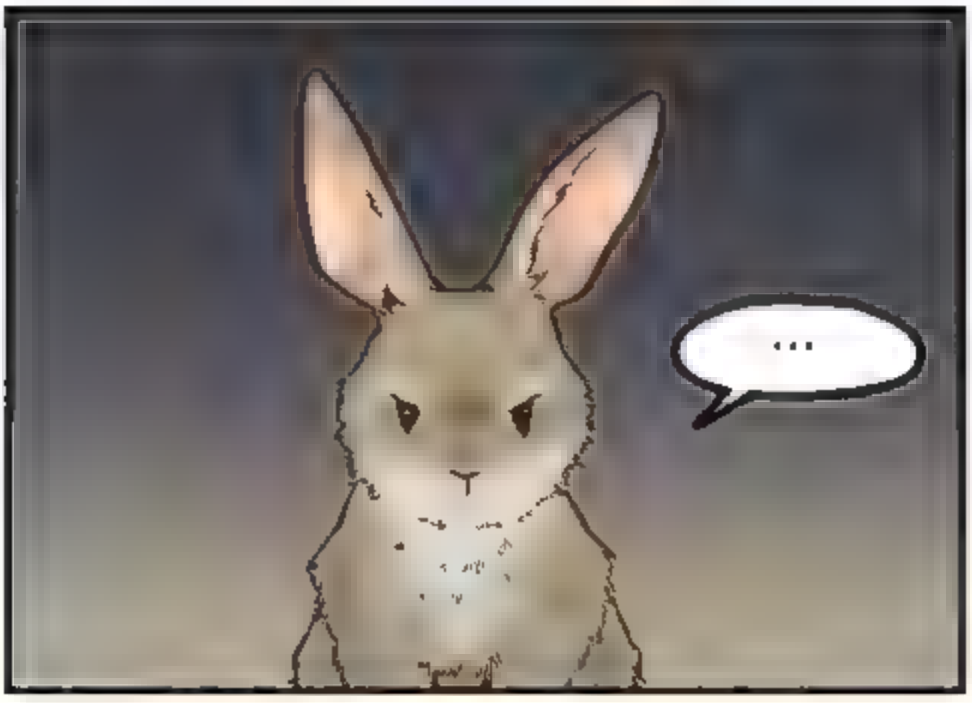
ABOUT ALL THAT WHEN YOU'RE TRYING TO HELP SOMEONE?
HE'S NOT DOING ANYTHING WRONG. HE JUST WANTS TO GIVE IT A SHOT, SO WHY ARE YOU BELITTLING HIM?

AND BESIDES, HELPING OUT WAS MY IDEA IN THE FIRST PLACE.
OH, NO! A LOWLY HUMAN DARES TO TRY AND HELP A DRAGON? WHAT HAS THE WORLD COME TO?!


THIS IS THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE MET HIM, BUT YOU'VE ALREADY CALLED HIM A LOSER AND A FOOL.
YOU MAY LOOK LIKE A CUTE FLUFFY BUNNY, BUT YOUR PERSONALITY IS SH--
PLEASE PARDON HIS MANNERS.

SMACK

FORGIVE OUR RUDENESS. WE PROMISE NOT TO MAKE A MESS...
BOW
...SO MAY WE PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AROUND YOUR MOUNTAIN?



FINE...

...DO AS

YOU WISH.

HOW TO BECOME

A DRAGON

- EPISODE 65 -

...
SORRY ABOUT THAT...

HM?
I SHOULD HAVE BEEN RESPECTFUL AND BEGGED FOR SOME USEFUL INFORMATION...
...BUT I JUST GOT SO MAD!

I CAN'T STAND

IT WHEN PEOPLE BRING UP STATUS OR RANK TO SAY I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH...

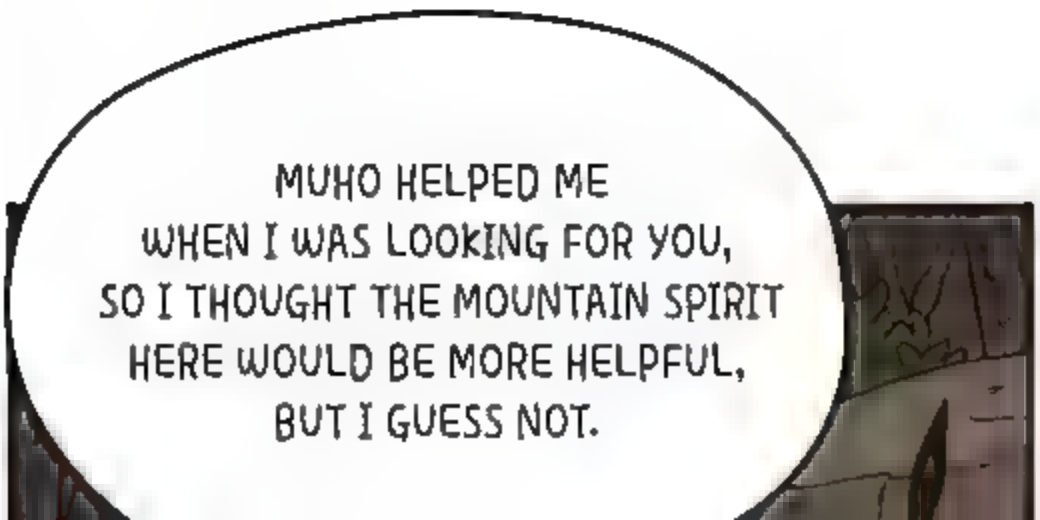
ALL THAT TALK MADE ME WANNA PICK UP A SPEAR AND LEAD A CHARGE OR SOMETHING.

ANYWAY, I...

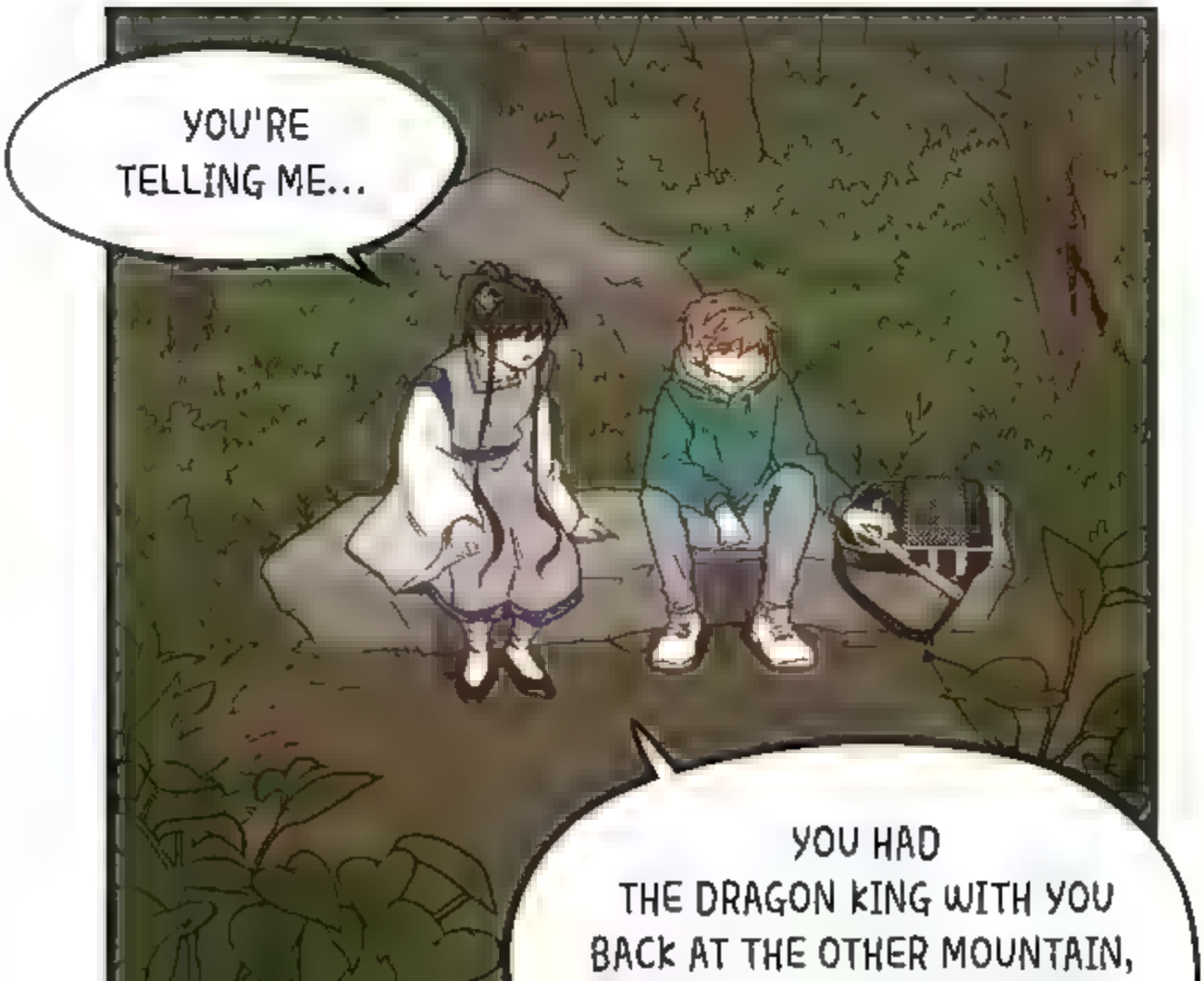
...HUH?

WHAT ARE YOU SMILING FOR?
HM?

OH,
IT'S NOTHING.
HAHAHA!
OW!
ACK!
WHAT'S
WITH YOU?
PAT
PAT
I SAID
I WAS SORRY!


MUHO HELPED ME
WHEN I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU,
SO I THOUGHT THE MOUNTAIN SPIRIT
HERE WOULD BE MORE HELPFUL,
BUT I GUESS NOT.

THAT BUNNY RABBIT SURE IS GRUMPY.
JEEZ


YOU'RE TELLING ME...
YOU HAD THE DRAGON KING WITH YOU BACK AT THE OTHER MOUNTAIN,

SO I'M SURE IT FELT A LITTLE LESS HOPELESS THEN.

WELL, I HAVE YOU RIGHT NOW.

IT'S NOT HOPELESS.

COMPARED TO
WHAT THE DRAGON KING
IS CAPABLE OF...

...I BASICALLY CAN'T DO ANYTHING.

I CAN'T CONTROL STORMS LIKE MIRI...
...OR STEER THE CLOUDS LIKE YEONGNO DOES...

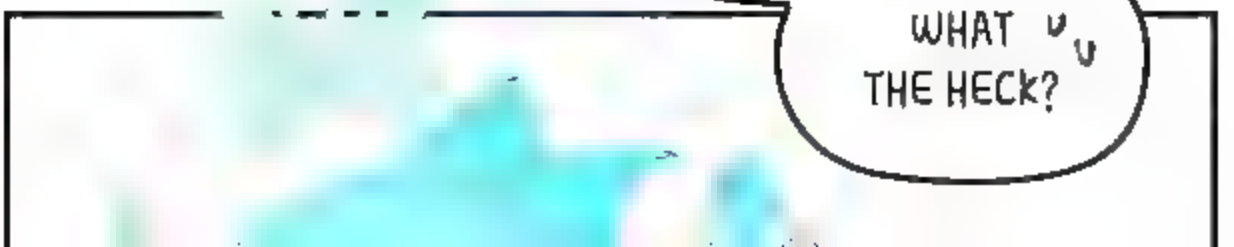
STORMS AND CLOUDS? WE DON'T NEED ANY OF THAT RIGHT NOW.
IMAGINE WE SUMMONED A STORM HERE. THE TONGUE WOULD GO FLYING TO WHO KNOWS WHERE!
AND WHAT USE ARE CLOUDS AT THE MOMENT?

HONESTLY, EVEN IF THE DRAGON KING WERE HERE, ALL HE'D BE ABLE TO DO IS SUMMON SOME FISH WITH THIS.

BESIDES, THIS THING IS USELESS RIGHT NOW.

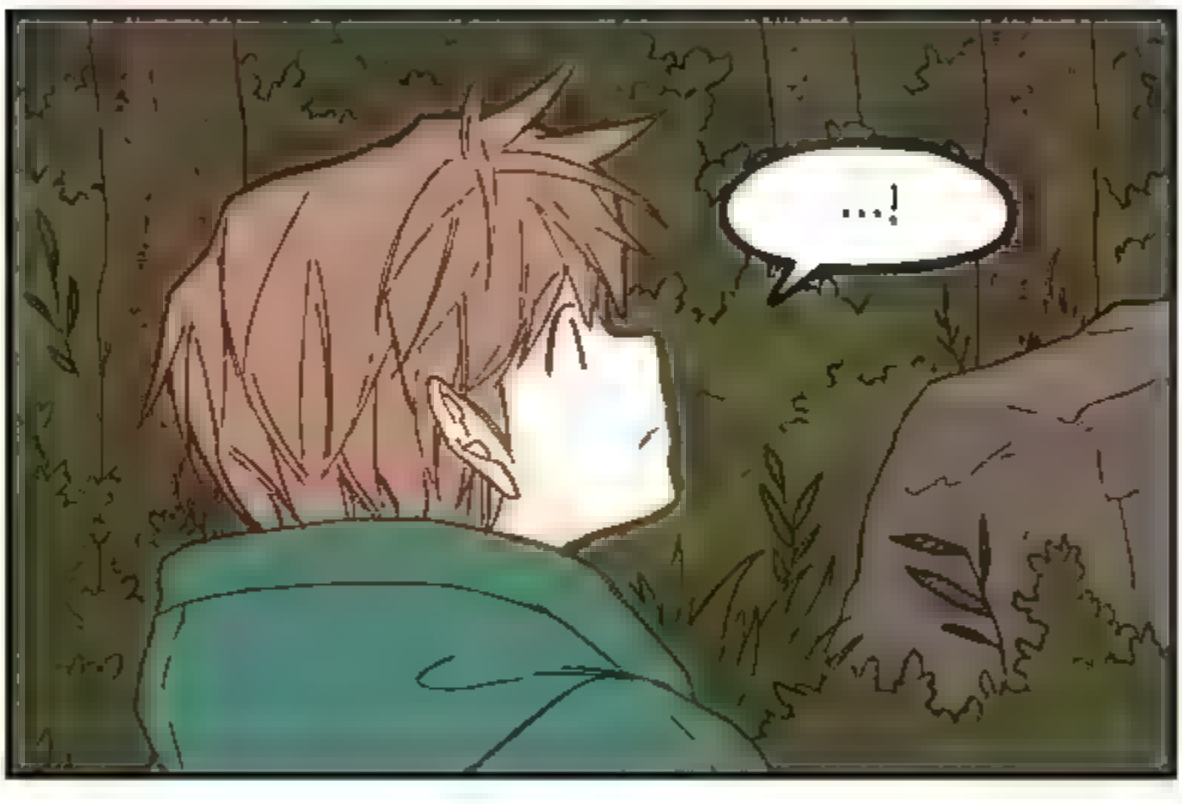
...HUH?

WHAT THE HECK? ∪_∪



WHAT'S UP WITH THIS STICK? ONE MINUTE IT'S BROKEN, THE NEXT IT'S WORKING?

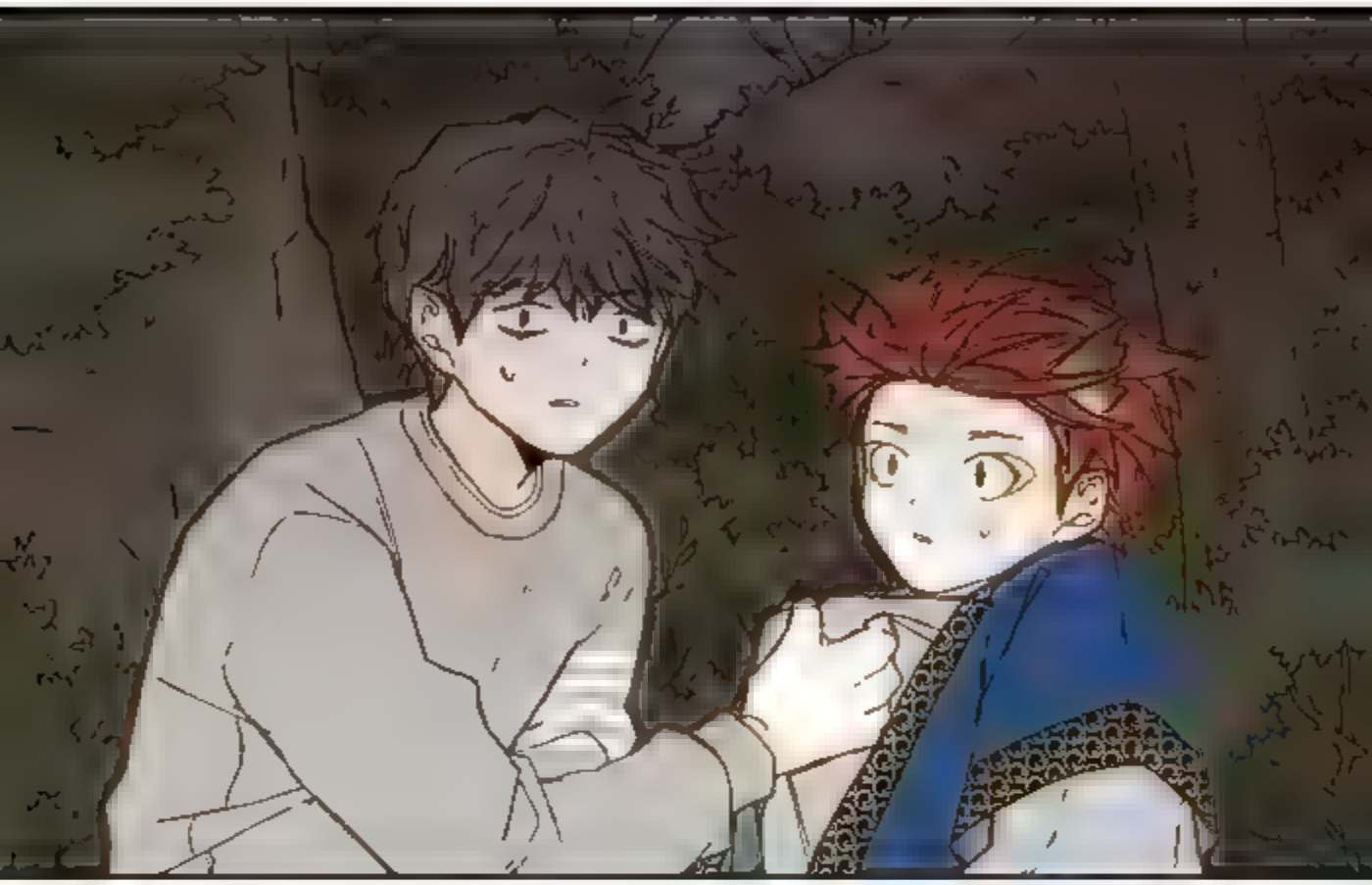
DIDN'T YOU TALK TO ONE OF THE FISH AT THAT SEAFOOD PLACE BEFORE?
CAN YOU TALK TO THIS LITTLE FELLA TOO?

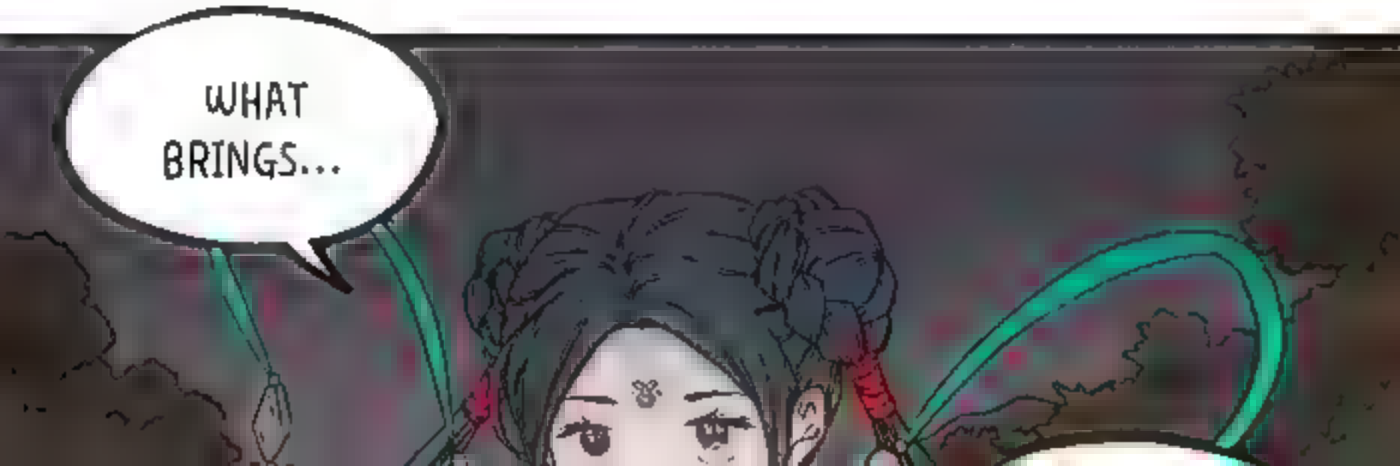


WAIT A MINUTE!

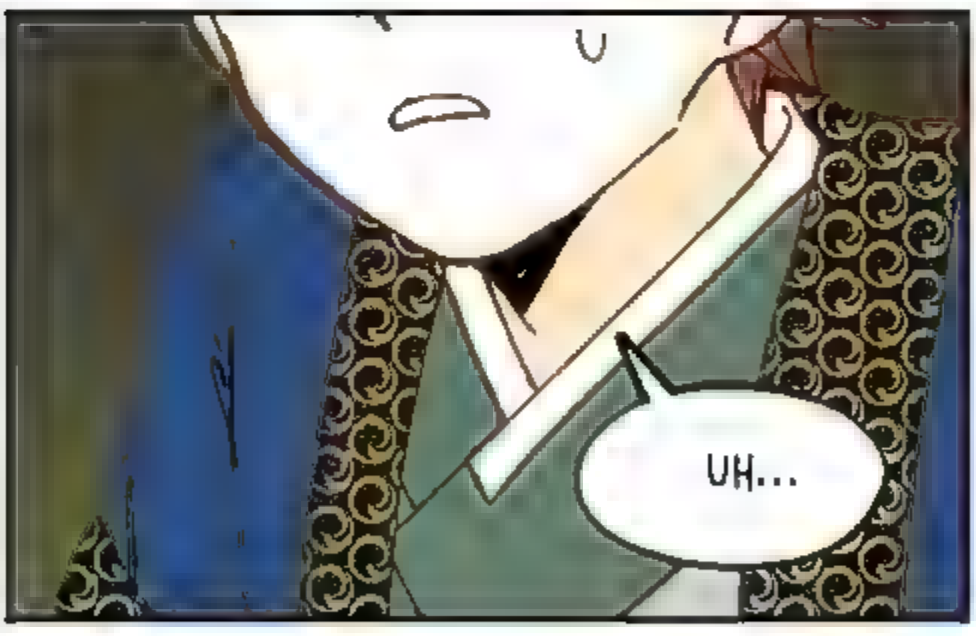
I REMEMBER THERE IS SOMETHING YOU'RE GOOD AT!

WHAT IS ALL THIS COMMOTION...
...ON THE BANKS OF MY RIVER?

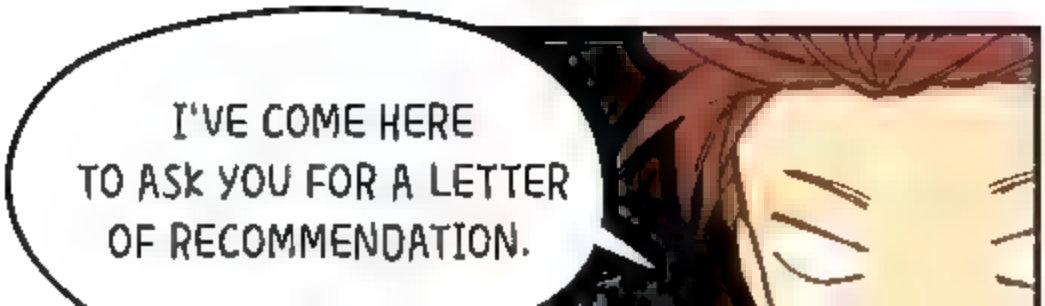



WHAT
BRINGS...

BLINK
...AN IMOOGI OUT HERE?


UH...

GREETINGS, DRAGON OF THE SOYANG RIVER!
HAHAHA
SPRING
MY NAME IS MIRI, ONE OF THE IMOOGI TAKING THE NAKDONG RIVER DRAGON EXAM!


I'VE COME HERE TO ASK YOU FOR A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION.

AND FOR THAT...
WHACK
...I'VE BROUGHT YOU A HUMBLE GIFT

HE MAY NOT LOOK IT, BUT HE'S GOT A LOT OF MUSCLE MASS!
HE'S HEALTHY, LOW IN FAT, AND HAS NO DISEASES!

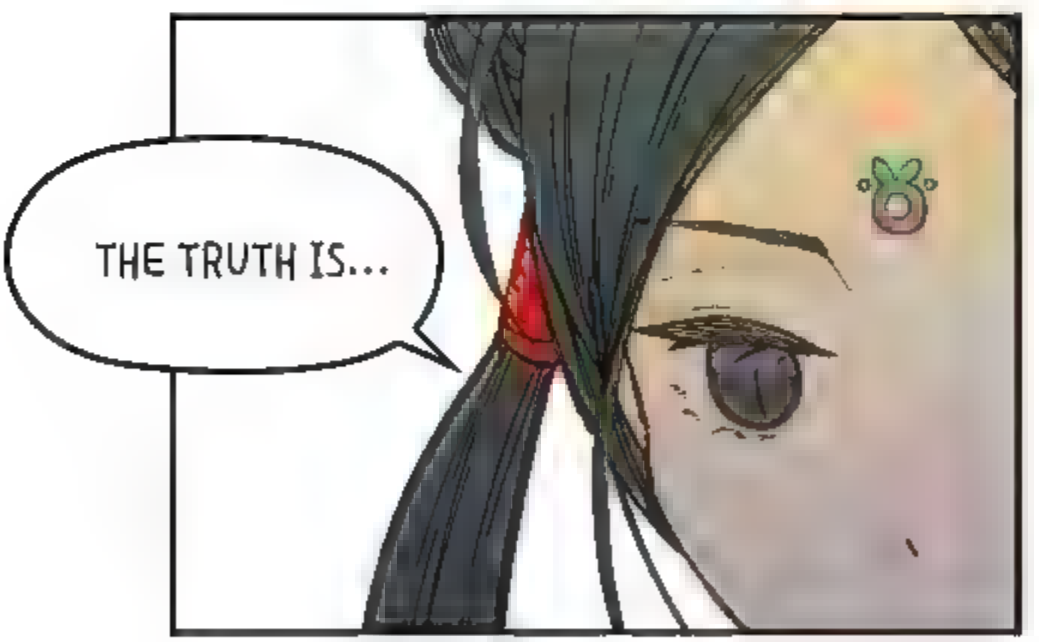
...HOWEVER, I'M ADDICTED TO SNAKE VENOM, SO THERE'S THAT!
ON THE OTHER HAND!
THIS GUY HERE IS OVER 1,000 YEARS OLD, BUT HE STILL LOOKS SO YOUNG! HOW ABOUT HIM INSTEAD?
THE YOUNGER THE BETTER, RIGHT?
IT'S WHAT'S ON THE OUTSIDE THAT COUNTS!

IF YOU JUST LOOK AT HIS FACE, HE'S PRACTICALLY A TEENAGER!
HE ALSO ONLY EATS ORGANIC FOOD AT HOME, SO LOOK AT HOW NICE HIS SKIN IS!

...OFFERING? WHAT KIND OF JOKE IS THIS?

I NEVER ASKED FOR SUCH THINGS.

SIGH


THE TRUTH IS...

...I HAD TWO OLDER BROTHERS.
THEY ADORED ME, THEIR BABY SISTER.

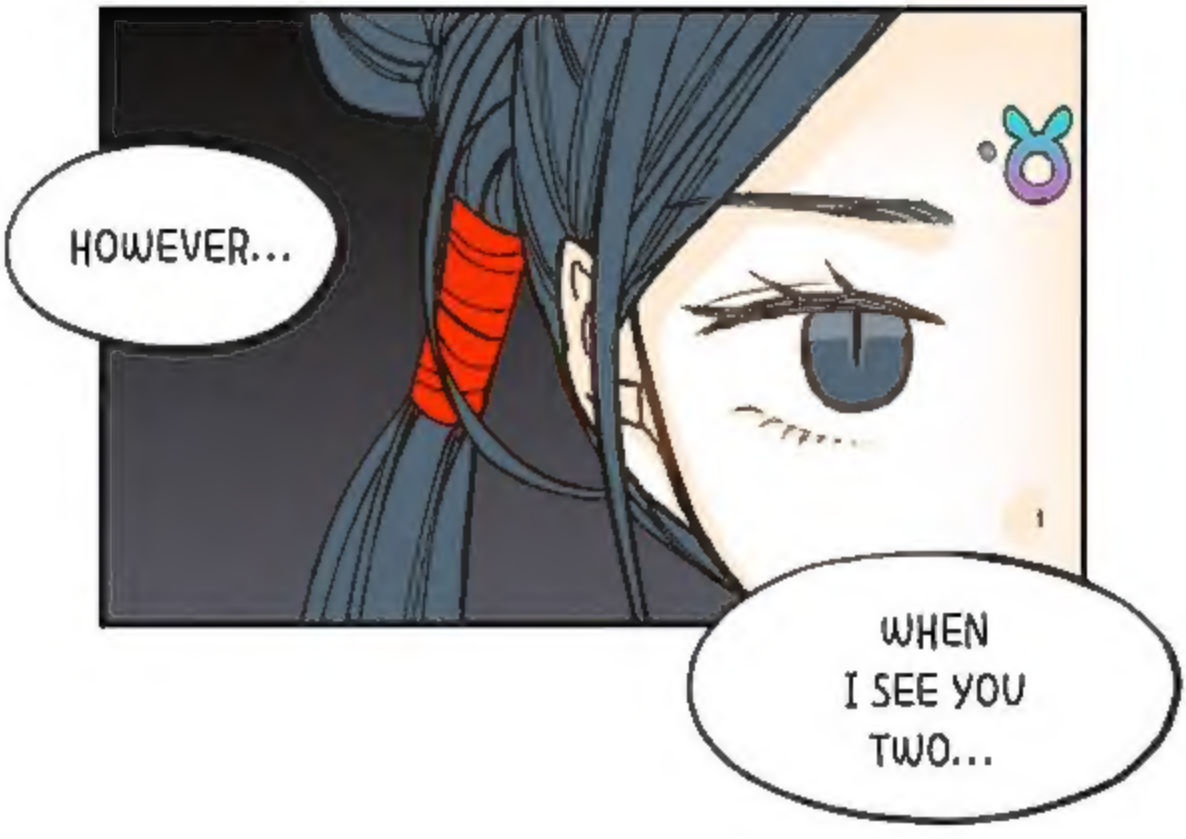
THE THREE OF US WERE AS CLOSE AS

CAN BE...

...UNTIL MY BROTHERS PASSED AWAY AT AN EARLY AGE IN AN ACCIDENT.

EVER SINCE THEN, I'M REMINDED OF MY OWN BROTHERS WHENEVER I SEE SIBLINGS WHO SHARE THAT KIND OF SPECIAL BOND.

I BLESSED THOSE KIND PEOPLE WITH RAIN DURING DROUGHTS AND KEPT THEM DRY DURING FLOODS.
THEY MAY HAVE BEEN MERE HUMANS, BUT THEIR ACTS OF BROTHERHOOD TOUCHED ME GREATLY...
YES, INDEED
...SO I WANTED TO HELP THEM IN ANY WAY THAT I COULD.


HOWEVER...
WHEN I SEE YOU TWO...

I DON'T SEE THE BONDS OF TRUE KINSHIP.
YOU DISGUST ME WITH YOUR ATTEMPTS TO ENTRAP AND ABANDON ONE ANOTHER.

I WILL NOT WRITE A RECOMMENDATION LETTER FOR THE LIKES OF YOU...
...SO LEAVE MY RIVER AT ONCE.

UH... WHAT?
...